

wherein dimensions of each said interactive segment and widths of gaps defined by opposite edges of adjacent segments are determined by computer optimisation means, such that the aggregate reflection of said signals passing through said transmission line is minimised,

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wherein at least two of said interactive segments are shaped differently from one another.

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3. (Amended) A phase shifter element as claimed in claim 1, wherein said gaps are at least partly filled by material whose dielectric constant is different to that of a dielectric constant of said dielectric segments.

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4. (Amended) A phase shifter element as claimed in claim 1, wherein said gaps are at least partly filed by the same material as that of the dielectric segments, and wherein the thickness of the filing is less than the thickness of said segments.

Please add the following new claims:

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16. (New) A phase shifter element as claimed in claim 1, wherein all of said interactive dielectric segments are of different shapes from one another.

17. (New) A phase shifter element as claimed in claim 1, wherein said gaps are of different shapes from one another.

18. (New) A phase shifter element as claimed in claim 1, wherein the interactive dielectric segments each have leading and trailing edge surfaces along a direction of said transmission line such that at least one of the leading and trailing edge surfaces of at least one interactive dielectric segment is nonlinear.

19. (New) The phase shifter element of claim 1, wherein leading and trailing edge surfaces of plural interactive dielectric segments are nonlinear.

20. (New) A multi-band antenna system comprising:

a multi-band antenna comprising one or more radiating elements;

a conductive ground plane;

a distribution element comprising a planar dielectric circuit board and conductive tracks which ~~form~~ a transmission line network for splitting a signal applied to a signal input terminal into a plurality of paths that terminate at respective one or more radiating elements;

a movable planar dielectric element comprising a body and three or more discrete interactive dielectric segments extending from at least one edge of said body, wherein said

movable planar dielectric element movably overlaps said transmission line network so that an aggregate reflection of signals passing through said transmission line network is minimized.

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21. (New) The multi-band antenna system of claim 20, wherein the movable dielectric element is supported in a linear slidable manner by two parallel rods attached to the conductive ground plane.

22. (New) The multi-band antenna system of claim 21, wherein the movable dielectric element further comprises an adjustable means that includes a remotely controllable servomechanism.
